GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:660
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2007
SEPARATION OF ATC FROM AAI
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a): whether there has been apprehensions that Indian airports are currently not ready for the massive boost in air traffic;

(b): if so, the details thereof;

(c): whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government for mix use of defence airspace and having off ATC from the AAI by forming a separate corporation;

(d): if so, the details thereof; and

(e): the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) & (b) In order to meet unprecendented surge in the air traffic in past three years, the existing airport infrastructure is required to be strengthened / augmented. Government have accordingly taken up a major plan to upgrade/augment airport infrastructure, which includs:
(i) Modernisation of Delhi and Mumbai airports through Joint Venture route;
(ii) Expansion and modernisation of Kolkata and Chennai airports by Airports Authority of India;
(iii) Construction of new Greenfield airports at Bangalore and Hyderabad;
(iv) Modernisation of 35 non-metro airports;
(v) Upgradation of CNS/ATM facilities at various airports;
(vi) GAGAN Project for better air navigation services.

(c),(d) & (e) It has been the endeavour of the Government to ensure optimum utlisation of air space in a coordinated approach so as to meet the increased demands of all stake holders. A concept of `Flexible Use of Airspace` by the defence and civil authorities is under consideration. A Committee set up by this Ministry to prepare a Road Map for Civil Aviation Sector, has, inter-alia, recommended that Air Traffic Control (ATC) services be hived off from the current jurisdiction of Airports Authority of India (AAI), in line with the international trends, and be constituted as a separate corporate entity. This is under consideration.